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COMMERCI NO. 1353

22 June 1962

RECIPIENT FOR: Secretary, Economic Intelligence Committee

FROM: Secretary, EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture

SUBJECT: EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture Annual
Report for FY 1962

A. Activities of the Subcommittee During Fiscal Year

1. Review of the Intelligence Product in the Subcommittee's Field of Competence.

The Subcommittee discussed the planned economic research projects on Sino-Soviet Bloc agriculture as presented by representatives from the Department of Agriculture, the Department of State and CIA.

2. Research and Collection Deficiencies

a. Research Deficiencies

The Subcommittee updated its statement on "Priority Research Deficiencies on Sino-Soviet Bloc Agriculture."

b. Collection Deficiencies

The Subcommittee has not prepared any Collection Deficiency statements in FY 1962.

3. Review of Substantive Papers

None

4. Review of Proposals for External Research

The Subcommittee in FY 1962 reviewed two CIA-sponsored External Research Project Proposals, "Evaluation of Current and Planned Use of Mineral Fertilizers in Soviet Agriculture" and "Agricultural Areas Analogous to the Agricultural Regions of Communist China." In both cases, the comments were favorable or no comments were reported by the Subcommittee members.

5. Maintenance of Agreed Basic Statistics

There have been informal discussions among some Subcommittee members on current agricultural production statistics of bloc

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6. Projects Undertaken at the Request of the WIC or Proposed to the WIC.

Note:

7. Intelligence Research Techniques

The techniques of research on the relation of weather to crop yields have been discussed by some Subcommittee members.

8. Special Coordinating Functions of the Subcommittee

Specialists from the Department of State, the Department of Agriculture, and CIA have regularly discussed the effects of weather on crop production in the bloc countries.

9. Evaluation of the Role of the Subcommittee

Members of the Subcommittee feel that the Subcommittee has been effective as a medium for interagency review and coordination, and as a mechanism for improving economic intelligence research within the field of interest. Nevertheless, it is felt that there is a definite need for closer and more frequent interagency collaboration on matters of mutual interest at the working level.

10. Future Programs of the Subcommittee

No changes in the structure or in the functioning of the Subcommittee on Agriculture are contemplated for FY 1963.

The Subcommittee should continue to identify gaps in research and collection, approve external research projects, serve as a coordinating body for all agencies and departments having responsibilities in food and agriculture, and serve as a clearing house for information and data on western countries which could be useful in appraising developments in the Sino-Soviet Bloc. The Subcommittee should be alert and discuss significant developments, activities and situations in the field of food and agriculture throughout the world.

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Secretary
WIC Subcommittee on Agriculture